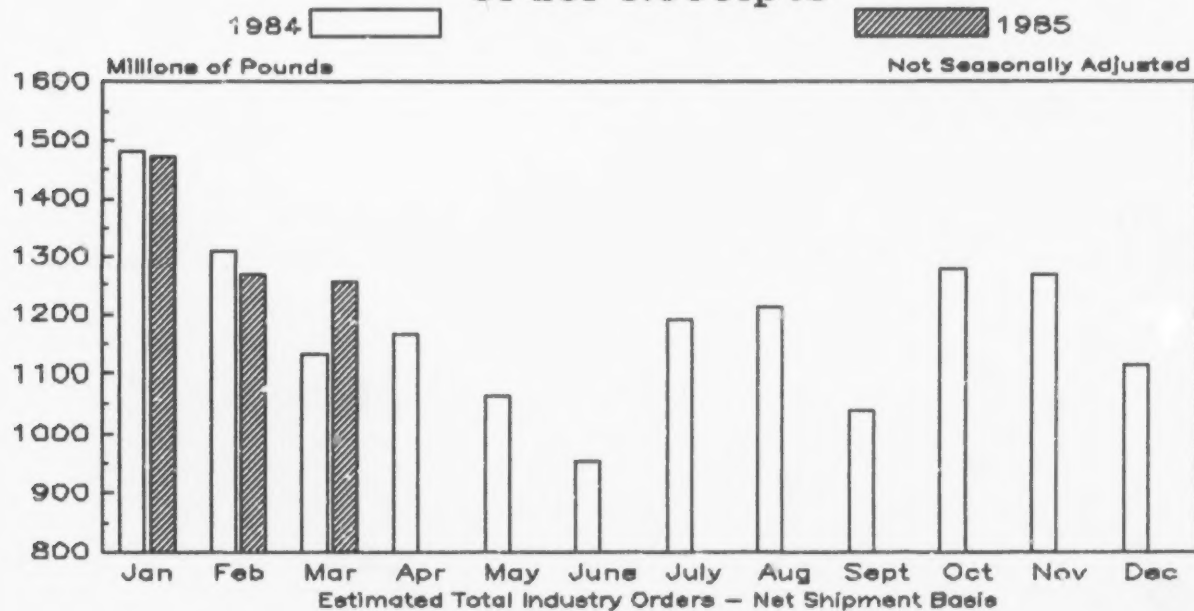


March Orders Up 11.0 Percent vs. Year Ago

Estimated net new order receipts for March 1985 of 1,254 million pounds were 11.0 percent higher than the 1,130 million pounds of orders received in March 1984. For the first quarter of 1985, orders were up 1.8 percent.

Order Receipts



Order Receipts

(Millions of Pounds)

	1985* Mar.	1984 Mar.	1985 3 months	1984 3 months	% Change YTD 1985 vs. 1984
Can Stock (a)	244.2	240.9	817.9	864.1	- 5.3
Sheet & Plate, Other	329.5	328.4	1,021.0	1,053.7	- 3.1
Foil	56.1	66.1	184.4	198.9	- 7.3
Rod, Bar & Wire	14.8	25.1	43.0	74.0	-41.9
Electrical Conductor	62.5	58.1	182.7	192.9	- 5.3
Extruded Products	225.8	178.1	668.0	601.3	+11.1
Powder & Paste	8.4	23.7	31.9	38.7	-17.6
Forgings & Impacts	7.5	10.6	31.1	33.5	- 7.2
Domestic Mill Products	948.8	931.0	2,980.0	3,057.1	- 2.5
Ingot (Total)	207.4	159.3	742.2	648.6	+14.4
TOTAL DOMESTIC	1,156.2	1,090.3	3,722.2	3,705.7	+ 0.4
Exports	97.8	39.9	271.4	217.1	+25.0
TOTAL ALL PRODUCTS	1,254.0	1,130.2	3,993.6	3,922.8	+ 1.8

Source: The Association estimates total industry orders, based on weekly reports by members of new orders (less cancellations) received. The Association expands these data to total industry utilizing an expansion ratio that attempts to reflect the relationship of reporters to the total industry. Weekly data are available upon request.

(a) Import orders included in Sheet and Plate, Other.

*Latest month.

Inventories Continue Decline in February 1985 By 42 Million Pounds

Producer inventories decreased an estimated 42 million pounds in February 1985 from January 1985. Due to changes in the Bureau of Census format of reports in January 1985, inventory detail is now shown by product type.

Month-End Aluminum Inventories By Type of Producer Figures in Millions of Pounds

Month	Total*	Integrated	Smelters	Non-Integrated
Dec 80	5,076	4,018	261	797
Dec 81	6,607	5,542	266	798
Dec 82	6,180	5,224	216	740
Dec 83	4,994	3,979	163	853
Mar 84	5,305	4,167	214	923
Apr 84	5,435	4,289	218	928
May 84	5,579	4,417	233	928
Jun 84	5,618	4,474	240	904
Jul 84	5,775	4,622	234	919
Aug 84	5,794	4,640	225	930
Sep 84	5,881	4,710	226	945
Oct 84	5,889	4,722	225	942
Nov 84	5,920	4,790	205	925
Dec 84	5,849r	4,691	229r	929r

Month	Total*	Ingot	Scrap	All Other
Jan 85	5,726r	2,607r	470r	2,649r
Feb 85	5,684	2,586	466	2,632

*Latest two months estimated by Aluminum Association. Previous data-Bureau of the Census. Inventories include ingot, mill products and scrap.
Early estimates are available approximately the 5th working day each month; however, there is a charge for this special service. Contact the Aluminum Association Department of Economics and Statistics for details.

Imports and Exports

(Millions of Pounds)

		1985 Feb.	1984 Feb.	1985 2 mos.	1984 2 mos.	% Change 1985 v. 1984
Imports	Mill Products	79.3	90.6	174.2	162.0	+ 7.5
	Ingot	124.9	190.1	275.9	331.1	-16.7
	Total	204.2	280.7	450.1	493.1	- 8.7
	Scrap (+ dross)	18.8	22.7	39.6	39.3	+ 1.0
	Grand Total	223.0	303.4	489.7	532.4	- 8.0
Exports	Mill Products	34.9	47.1	77.3	95.7	-19.2
	Ingot	69.3	40.3	157.2	89.2	+76.2
	Total	104.2	87.4	234.5	184.9	+26.8
	Scrap	74.3	37.1	138.5	82.3	+68.3
	Grand Total	178.5	124.5	373.0	267.2	+39.6
Net Imports		44.5	178.9	116.7	265.2	

Source: Department of Commerce, Industry Trade Administration and Bureau of the Census. Excludes backed foil.

The Aluminum Situation

Department of Economics and Statistics

May 1985

Shipments Off 7.5 Percent

Net shipments for three months of 1985, at an estimated 3,656 million pounds, were 7.5 percent lower than the 3,953 million pounds for three months of 1984.

Domestic shipments of 3,332 million pounds were 9.5 percent lower than the 3,680 million pounds shipped in three months of 1984.

Imports were down 12.6 percent and exports improved 18.6 percent.

Thru March 1985

	3 mos. 1985	3 mos. 1984	% Change
Mill Products	2,921	3,159	- 7.5
Ingot	735	794	- 7.5
Total	3,656	3,953	- 7.5
Less Exports	(324)	(273)	+18.6
Domestic Total	3,332	3,680	- 9.5

Millions of Pounds

Source: Latest two months estimated by the Aluminum Association.
Previous data-Bureau of the Census.

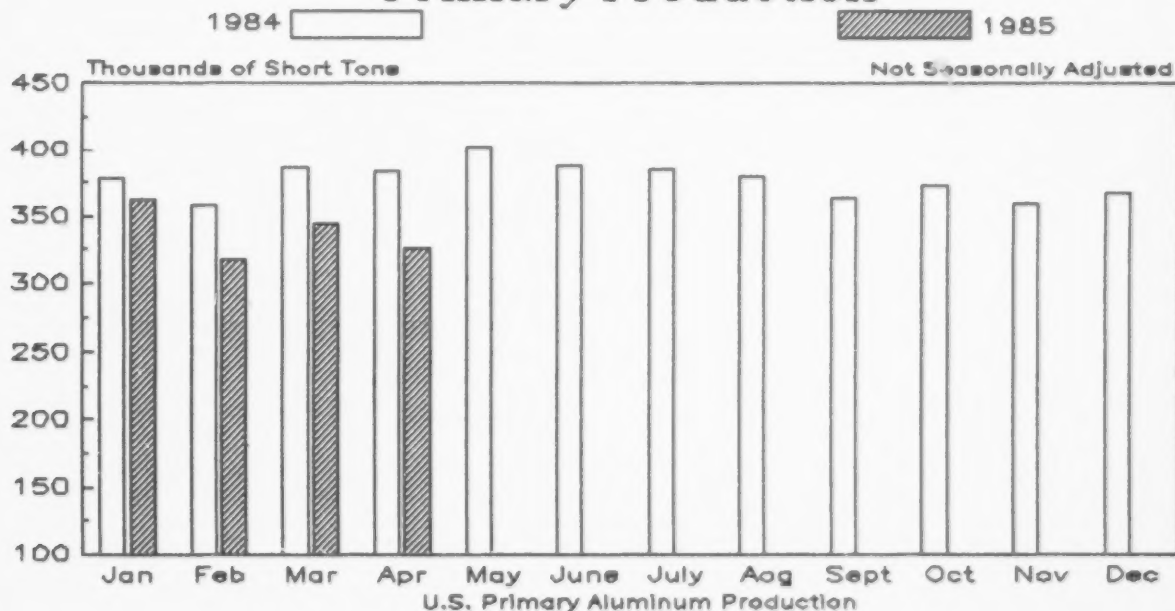
Production Rate Down 15.1 Percent

U.S. primary aluminum production averaged 10,843 short tons daily during April 1985 compared with an average 12,765 tons a day in April 1984.

The annual rate of production in April 1985 was 3,957,786 tons, compared to 4,052,948 tons in March 1985. April 1984 production rate was 4,671,941 tons.

Actual production in April 1985 was 325,298 tons.

Primary Production

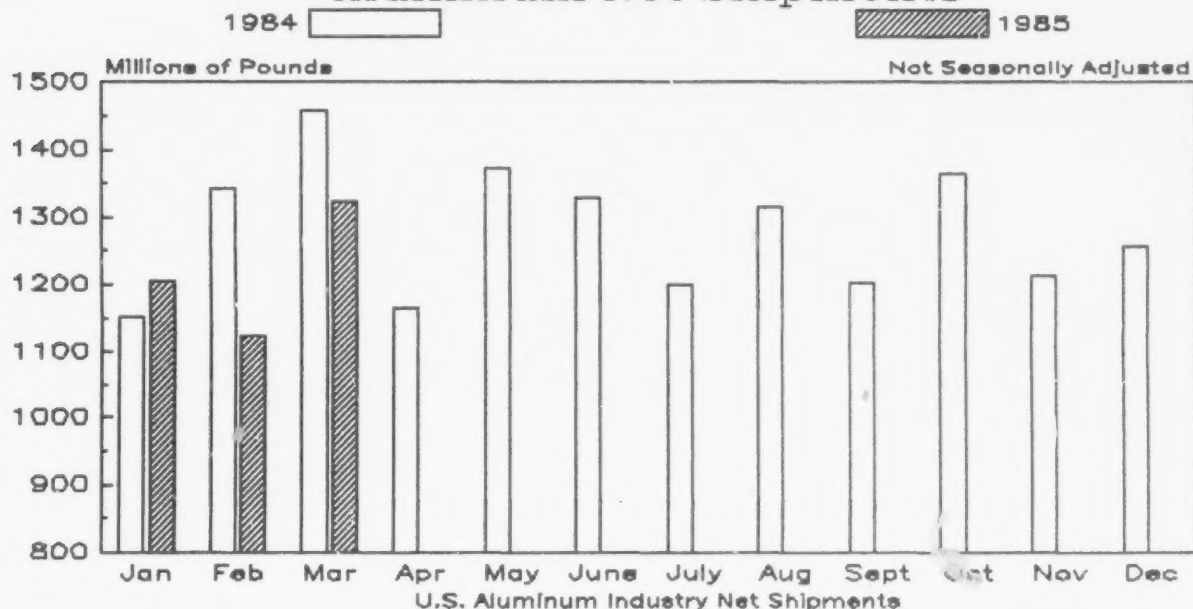


Aluminum Association total industry estimates are based on information reported by members, which is aggregated by the Association and then expanded to total industry data utilizing an expansion ratio that attempts to reflect the relationship of reporters to the total industry. While the Association believes that its statistical procedures and methods are reliable, it does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of the data. All data contained herein are subject to revision.

First Quarter Shipments Down 7.5 Percent vs. Year Ago

Estimated shipments of 3,656 million pounds in the first three months of 1985 were down 7.5 percent from 1984's first quarter. Shipments in March 1985 were up 17.6 percent from February 1985, however.

Aluminum Net Shipments



Net Shipments

(Millions of Pounds)

	1985 Mar.*	1984 Mar.	1985 3 mos.*	1984 3 mos.	% Change YTD 1985 vs. 1984
Sheet	565.0	646.7	1,484.4	1,721.2	-13.8
Plate	25.0	22.1	68.5	60.9	+12.5
Foil	71.0	75.6	189.5	215.3	-12.0
Rod, Bar & Wire	30.0	35.0	83.9	98.2	-14.6
Electrical Conductor	66.0	66.9	179.2	171.9	+ 4.2
Extruded Shapes & Tube	215.0	210.9	629.3	603.3	+ 4.3
Powder & Paste	10.0	8.0	29.1	23.5	+23.8
Forgings & Impacts	13.0	12.4	37.9	35.8	+ 5.9
Net Imports of Mill Products (Total) (a)	79.0	87.3	218.8	228.5	- 4.2
Total Mill Products	1,074.0	1,164.9	2,920.6	3,158.6	- 7.5
Ingot (b)	250.0	294.0	734.9	794.2	- 7.5
TOTAL INDUSTRY SHIPMENTS	1,324.0	1,458.9	3,655.5	3,952.8	- 7.5
Exports	(90.1)	(88.0)	(323.9)	(273.0)	+18.6
TOTAL DOMESTIC SHIPMENTS	1,233.9	1,370.9	3,331.6	3,679.8	- 9.5

*Latest two months estimated by the Aluminum Association.
Previous data-Bureau of the Census and Department of Commerce.

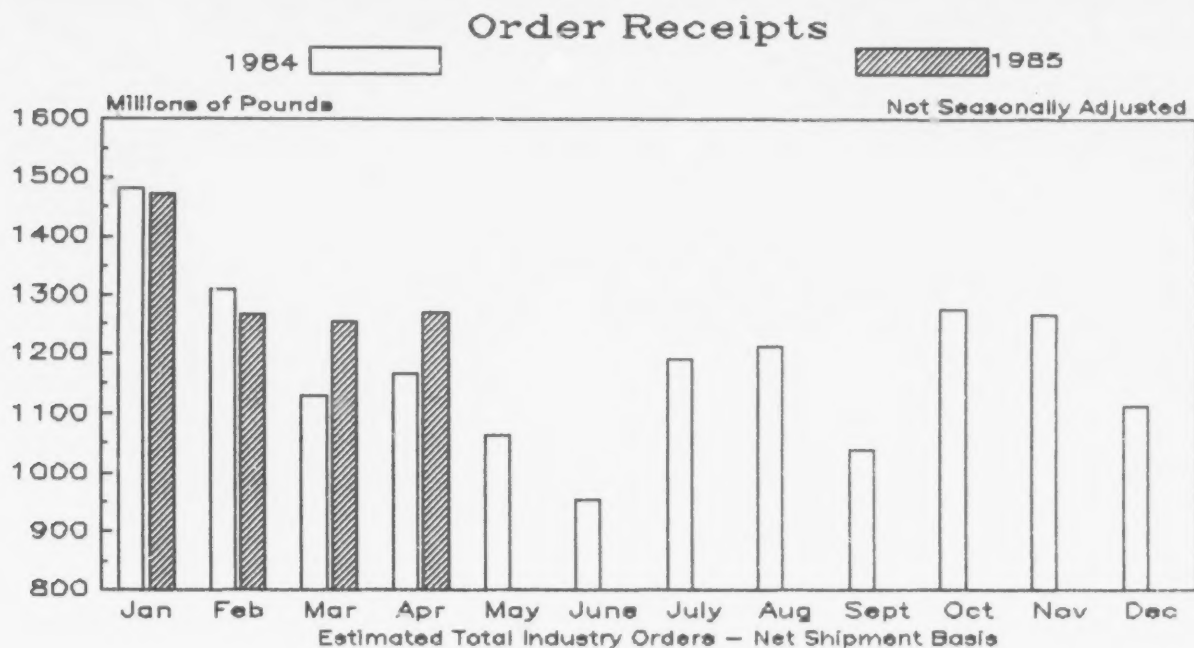
(a) Not included in product data above.

(b) Sufficient data not available for reliable estimate. Implicit in this item is a 10 to 25% variation.

Commencing January 1985, Census reports have changed product categories as follows: Rod, Bar and Wire now includes Extruded Rod and Bar; the former Extruded Products now only consists of Shapes and Pipe and Tube; and Welded Tube has been dropped.

April Orders Up 9.0 Percent vs. Year Ago

Estimated net new order receipts for April 1985 of 1,269 million pounds were 9.0 percent higher than the 1,164 million pounds of orders received in April 1984. For four months of 1985, orders were up 3.5 percent over 1984's first four months.



Order Receipts

(Millions of Pounds)

	1985* Apr.	1984 Apr.	1985 4 months	1984 4 months	% Change YTD 1985 vs. 1984
Can Stock(a)	260.0	305.7	1,077.9	1,169.8	- 7.9
Sheet & Plate, Other	342.0	278.7	1,363.0	1,332.4	+ 2.3
Foil	76.9	65.7	261.3	264.6	- 1.2
Rod, Bar & Wire	15.7	28.8	58.7	102.8	-42.9
Electrical Conductor	61.5	80.0	244.2	272.9	-10.5
Extruded Products	215.8	177.7	883.8	779.0	+13.5
Powder & Paste	8.8	6.5	40.7	45.2	-10.0
Forgings & Impacts	9.3	12.2	40.4	45.7	-11.6
Domestic Mill Products	990.0	955.3	3,970.0	4,012.4	- 1.1
Ingot (Total)	220.7	143.7	962.9	792.3	+21.5
TOTAL DOMESTIC	1,210.7	1,099.0	4,932.9	4,804.7	+ 2.7
Exports	58.3	65.2	329.7	282.3	+16.8
TOTAL ALL PRODUCTS	1,269.0	1,164.2	5,262.6	5,087.0	+ 3.5

Source: The Association estimates total industry orders, based on weekly reports by members of new orders (less cancellations) received. The Association expands these data to total industry utilizing an expansion ratio that attempts to reflect the relationship of reporters to the total industry. Weekly data are available upon request.

(a) Import orders included in Sheet and Plate, Other.

*Latest month.

Inventories Continue Decline in March 1985 By 56 Million Pounds

Producer inventories decreased an estimated 56 million pounds in March 1985 from February 1985. Due to changes in the Bureau of Census format of reports in January 1985, inventory detail is now shown by product type.

Month-End Aluminum Inventories By Type of Producer Figures in Millions of Pounds

Month	Total*	Integrated	Smelters	Non-Integrated
Dec 80	5,076	4,018	261	797
Dec 81	6,607	5,542	266	798
Dec 82	6,180	5,224	216	740
Dec 83	4,994	3,979	163	853
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Aug 84	5,794	4,640	225	930
Sep 84	5,881	4,710	226	945
Oct 84	5,889	4,722	225	942
Nov 84	5,920	4,790	205	925
Dec 84	5,849	4,691	229	929

Month	Total*	Ingot	Scrap	All Other
Jan 85	5,759r	2,448r	669r	2,612r
Feb 85	5,656r	2,482r	674r	2,500r
Mar 85	5,600	2,430	650	2,520

*Latest two months estimated by Aluminum Association. Previous data-Bureau of the Census. Inventories include ingot, mill products and scrap. Early estimates are available approximately the 5th working day each month; however, there is a charge for this special service. Contact the Aluminum Association Department of Economics and Statistics for details.

Imports and Exports

(Millions of Pounds)

		1985 Mar.	1984 Mar.	1985 3 mos.	1984 3 mos.	% Change 1985 v. 1984
Imports	Mill Products	94.7	106.0	268.9	268.0	+ 0.3
	Ingot	177.4	227.2	453.3	558.3	-18.8
	Total	272.1	333.2	722.2	826.3	-12.6
	Scrap (+ dross)	19.7	30.0	59.3	69.3	-14.3
	Grand Total	291.8	363.2	781.5	895.6	-12.7
Exports	Mill Products	40.2	48.3	116.9	144.0	-18.9
	Ingot	49.9	39.7	207.0	128.9	+60.6
	Total	90.1	88.0	323.9	272.9	+18.7
	Scrap	80.3	32.9	218.8	115.3	+89.8
	Grand Total*	170.4	120.9	542.7	388.2	+39.8
Net Imports		121.4	242.3	238.8	507.4	

Source: Department of Commerce, Industry Trade Administration and Bureau of the Census. Excludes backed foil.